

Annex "A," Subparagraph 1e,
Sociological Background

LANGUAGES

I. NORTHERN MANDARIN DIALECTS

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The population in Hopei and Shansi provinces, totaling 55,750,000, speak Northern Mandarin dialects which are mutually intelligible and have the following distinguishing features in common:

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There are two kinds of stop affricative consonants which are not voiced and voiceless as b, d, g, dz, and p, t, k, ts in English, but voiceless unaspirated and voiceless aspirated, commonly expressed in phonetic symbols of the Wade-Giles system of Romanization as p, t, k, ts and p', t', k', ts', respectively. Roughly speaking, p, t, k sound like English p, t, k, in speak, still, and skill; and p', t', k' sound like English p, t, k in peak, till, and kill. Voiced consonants such as b, d, g of English do not exist in Northern Mandarin.

There is a set of retroflex affricatives and fricatives distinguishable from dental affricatives and fricatives. For example:

Chu (pig) : tsu (to rent)
Ch'eng (city wall) : ts'eng (storey, layer)
Shan (hill) : san (three)

The guttural nasal ng does not occur in the initial position of a word as it usually does in other dialect groups.

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A vowel scheme such as the following exists:

	<u>Front</u>		<u>Central</u>	<u>Back</u>	
	<u>Unrounded</u>			<u>Unrounded</u>	<u>Rounded</u>
		<u>Rounded</u>			
High	i	ü		ɤ	u
Mid	e		ə	ɛ	o
Low			a		

With an additional symbol for the apical vowel, the above scheme will suffice to indicate all the vowel sounds of these dialects. Ordinarily, e and ə, or ɛ and o are not distinguishable.

Only two final nasals, n and ng are found, except in Shansi Province, and they are distinguishable regardless of the vowel preceding them.

Lan (indigo)	:	lang (wolf)
Chen (true)	:	cheng (to steam)
Min (people)	:	ming (name)
Sun (grandchild)	:	sung (loose)
Ch'ün (a crowd)	:	ch'iung (poor, impoverished)

There are four tones. The pitch of the first tone is high-level; that of the second, high-rising; that of the third, low-dipping; and that of the fourth, high-falling. Graphically, these four tones may be represented as follows: ˥, ˧˨˦, ˨˨˦, and ˨˨˦˨˦, respectively. However, the dialects spoken in Shansi and areas adjacent to it have an additional fifth tone, which is always associated with a glottal stop in a final position. Another characteristic of these dialects is that n and ng rarely occur

194 after the vowels a and e.

A few variations from the standard Northern Mandarin are noted in this dialect group as spoken in Hopei Province. The tone values of the words vary from place to place. The following comparison is made on the basis of dialects spoken in Tientsin (northeastern Hopei), Paoting (central Hopei), and P'u-yang (southern Hopei):

<u>Standard Northern Mandarin</u>	<u>Tientsin</u>	<u>Paoting</u>	<u>P'u-yang</u>
High-level	High-falling	High-rising	High-rising
High-rising	Mid high-falling	High-falling	Mid high-falling
Low-dipping	High-rising	Low-dipping	High-level
High-falling	High-falling	High-falling	Low-dipping

- 194 In scattered areas in Hopei Province, certain standard Northern Mandarin sounds are pronounced differently. For example:

	Standard Northern Mandarin	Hopei Dialects
enter	chin	tsin
near	chin	kin (<u>k</u> pronounced like something between <u>kin</u> and <u>go</u>)
wife	ch'i	ts'i
deceive	ch'i	ki

In some dialects spoken in areas southeast of Peking, initial n is added to the standard Northern Mandarin zero initial preceding a mid or low vowel. Thus standard Northern Mandarin e (hungry), ai (to love) ao (to stew), and en (favor) become ne, nai, nao, and nen, respectively.

Most of the people in Hopei Province pronounce the vowel e in standard Northern Mandarin final ien "opened", thus making it sound like ian. They also pronounce standard Northern Mandarin ing like ieng or iang.

The characteristics of ^{the} dialects spoken in Shansi Province and some mountainous areas in western and northwestern Hopei Province are as follows:

● 194 The ancient "entering" tone, which has been dropped from standard Northern Mandarin, is preserved in Shansi dialects. Consequently these dialects have five tones. All the words with an "entering" tone are pronounced with a final glottal stop.

Retroflexes and sibilants are not differentiated in many Shansi dialects; thus standard Northern Mandarin shu (to comb) becomes su and ch'ung (to rush) becomes ts'ung, etc.

Standard Northern Mandarin medial u, when pronounced with a zero initial, is substituted by v; thus wen (to ask) becomes ven; wa (stockings) becomes va, etc.

Both standard Mandarin ai and ei are pronounced like ei, with e sounding like e in the English word set; thus standard Northern Mandarin k'ai (to open) becomes k'ei.

Standard Northern Mandarin finals n and ng are dropped when they follow vowels a and e; thus pan (half) becomes pa, kang (steel) becomes ka, etc.

Most of the standard Northern Mandarin finals n and ng are pronounced ng uniformly; thus hsin (heart) becomes hsing, sun (grandson) becomes sung, etc.